

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing of content data at a client, comprising:
 - transmitting a selection of content data to a server;
 - receiving, from the server, a file comprising license information and a locator for the content data, wherein the license information indicates a license status enabling the client to access the content data, wherein the license status indicates available content usage, wherein the available content usage indicates an amount of the content available to the client according to a scope of a license;
 - receiving selection of the content data;
 - determining whether the available content usage in the license status indicates that access to the content data is permitted;
 - providing access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage permits access;
 - decrementing the available content usage included in the file sent to the client by an amount of actual client usage of the content data at the client in response to providing access to the content data;
 - permitting access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired;
 - tracking content usage in response to determining that the available content usage indicates that the license has expired and permitting access to the content data after the license has expired;
 - synchronizing with the server to transmit the tracked amount of usage of the content data at the client after the license status is expired at the client; and
 - providing payment for the amount of usage of the content data after the license status is expired.

2-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the generated file comprises an XML file having a defined DTD format.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
sending, by the client, to the server a request to renew the license and make payment for the renewal in response to the client determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired.

18-39. (Canceled)

40-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the available content usage indicates a fixed number of allowed play, wherein the license status is expired after the content is rendered the fixed number of allowed playbacks.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the available content usage indicates a duration of the content playback.

47. (Currently Amended) A client in communication with a server to access content data, wherein the client includes a computer is programmed to perform operations, the operations comprising:

transmitting a selection of content data to a server;

receiving, from the server, a file comprising license information and a locator for the content data, wherein the license information indicates a license status enabling the client to access the content data, wherein the license status indicates available content usage, wherein the available content usage indicates an amount of the content available to the client according to a scope of a license;

receiving selection of the content data;

determining whether the available content usage in the license status indicates that access to the content data is permitted;

providing access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage permits access; [[and]]

decrementing the available content usage included in the file sent to the client reduced by an amount of actual client usage of the content data at the client in response to providing access to the content data;

permitting access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired;

tracking content usage in response to determining that the available content usage indicates that the license has expired and permitting access to the content data after the license has expired;

synchronizing with the server to transmit the tracked the amount of usage of the content data at the client after the license status is expired at the client; and

providing payment for the amount of usage of the content data after the license status is expired.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Previously Presented) The client of claim 47 , wherein the generated file comprises an XML file having a defined DTD format.

50. (Previously Presented) The client of claim 47, wherein the operations further comprise:

sending, by the client, to the server a request to renew the license and make payment for the renewal in response to the client determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)

53. (Previously Presented) The client of claim 47, wherein the available content usage indicates a fixed number of allowed play, wherein the license status is expired after the content is rendered the fixed number of allowed playbacks.

54. (Previously Presented) The client of claim 47, wherein the available content usage indicates a duration of the content playback.

55. (Currently Amended) A digital storage medium including a computer program executed at a client to access content data and communicate with a server, wherein the computer program is capable of causing the server to perform operations comprising:

transmitting a selection of content data to the server;

receiving, from the server, a file comprising license information and a locator for the content data, wherein the license information indicates a license status enabling the client to access the content data, wherein the license status indicates available content usage, wherein the available content usage indicates an amount of the content available to the client according to a scope of a license;

receiving selection of the content data;

determining whether the available content usage in the license status indicates that access to the content data is permitted;

providing access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage permits access;

decrementing the available content usage included in the file sent to the client reduced by an amount of actual client usage of the content data at the client in response to providing access to the content data;

permitting access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired;

tracking content usage in response to determining that the available content usage indicates that the license has expired and permitting access to the content data after the license has expired;

synchronizing with the server to transmit the tracked amount of usage of the content data at the client after the license status is expired at the client; and
providing payment for the amount of usage of the content data after the license status is expired.

56. (Canceled)

57. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 55, wherein the generated file comprises an XML file having a defined DTD format.

58. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 55, wherein the operations further comprise:

sending, by the client, to the server a request to renew the license from and make payment for the renewal in response to the client determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Canceled)

61. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 55, wherein the available content usage indicates a fixed number of allowed play, wherein the license status is expired after the content is rendered the fixed number of allowed playbacks.

62. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 55, wherein the available content usage indicates a duration of the content playback.

63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[40]] 1, wherein access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired is permitted in response to the client not being able to connect to the server, and wherein the synchronization occurs when the client is able to reconnect to the server.

64. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[40]] 1, further comprising:

determining whether the file permits the user to continue to use the content data after the license has expired, wherein the operations of permitting access to the content data in response to determining that the license has expired and tracking content usage is performed in response to determining that the file permits the user to continue to use the content data after the license has expired.

65. (Currently Amended) The client of claim [[52]] 47, wherein access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired is permitted in response to the client not being able to connect to the server, and wherein the synchronization occurs when the client is able to reconnect to the server.

66. (Currently Amended) The client of claim [[52]] 47, wherein the operations further comprise:

determining whether the file permits the user to continue to use the content data after the license has expired, wherein the operations of permitting access to the content data in response to determining that the license has expired and tracking content usage is performed in response to determining that the file permits the user to continue to use the content data after the license has expired.

67. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim [[60]] 55, wherein access to the content data in response to determining that the available content usage in the license status indicates that the license has expired is permitted in response to the client not being able to connect to the server, and wherein the synchronization occurs when the client is able to reconnect to the server.

68. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim [[60]] 55, wherein the operations further comprise:

determining whether the file permits the user to continue to use the content data after the license has expired, wherein the operations of permitting access to the content data in response to determining that the license has expired and tracking content usage is performed in response to

determining that the file permits the user to continue to use the content data after the license has expired.